

GRIMES COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #1

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

September 21, 2023

1. Vice President Braswell called the meeting to order at 7:16 pm at Fire Station #1
 - a. Commissioners present: Bob Leiper, Byron Kay, and Kyle Braswell
2. Invocation given by Leiper.
3. Recognition of citizens: None
4. Open forum: None
5. Minutes of the July meeting were reviewed. Motion to approve by Leiper and second by Kay. Carried 3-0
Minutes of the August meeting were reviewed. Motion to approve by Leiper and second by Braswell. Carried 3-0
6. The August treasurer's report was not available for review and will be reviewed at the October meeting.
7. The IVFD financial August statements were not available. The IVFD signed a contract with Julie Flores to manage the financial reports, but she was on vacation when the contract was signed, so she could not prepare the reports.
8. The IVFD reported that membership is at 12 members – 10 active, 2 associates, and 1 on leave. The department had 17 calls in August including 5 in one day. Still working to arrange a walkthrough at Rolligon, the solar farm, and the new gas well company next to Twin Oaks Landfill. The Chief also plans to request a walk through at Republic. He talked with the Republic safety person who said if they cannot control the fire with their fire extinguishers, they will let it burn. The Grimes County fire chiefs except Navasota got together in August to discuss the new contract with the county. They proposed multiple changes to the contract but were only successful in achieving several of the changes. The funding for each department is increasing \$5000 to \$45,000, and the Run Pool is increasing from \$50,000 to \$65,000. The chief will present the contract to the department at their November meeting. Insurance expenditures are coming up. The Chief plans to increase the truck insurance coverage to the

chassis replacement value, which will raise the insurance cost. Several events are coming up - Fire Safety Week is next month, Hay Day, possibly a Haunted House again for Halloween, and possibly a bonfire for Home Coming. The IVFD is waiting on invoices for several equipment items that were approved at previous ESD meetings. The ESD will pay the bills when the invoices are received.

9. Vice President Braswell convened a public hearing on the ESD's proposed 2023/2024 budget. Treasurer Leiper reviewed the budget. There were no public comments, and the public hearing was adjourned.
10. Leiper moved to approve the 2023/2024 budget and second by Kay. Carried 3-0.
11. Vice President Braswell convened a public hearing on the ESD's proposed tax rate for the tax year 2023. The ESD treasurer reviewed the proposed tax rate of \$0.018334/\$100. The tax rate will effectively be raised by 8.00 percent and will raise taxes for Maintenance and Operations on a \$100,000 home by approximately \$-2.99. There were no public comments, and the hearing was adjourned.
12. Braswell moved that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of 0.018334, which is effectively an 8.00 percent increase in the tax rate. Second by Leiper. The motion carried 3-0. The commissioners voting for the resolution were Kyle Braswell, Bob Leiper, and Byron Kay.
13. The ESD treasurer moved that the September payment to the IVFD be delayed until reviewing the financial statements at the October meeting and second by Braswell. Motion carried 3-0. The treasurer presented an invoice from the Navasota Examiner for \$86.00. Motion by Kay to approve the payment with second by Braswell. Carried 3-0. The treasurer stated that the SAFE D conference will be in February and the ESD will need to approve travel payments for attendees at the appropriate time.
14. Motion to adjourn at 7:53 by Braswell and second by Kay. Motion carried 3-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kyle Braswell

Vice President, Grimes County ESD #1